

Approved For Release 2001/03/17 : CIA-RDP82-00457R0087

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 22 NOV 49

SUBJECT Conditions in the Cities of
Constanta and Braila

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1A

NO. OF ENCL.
(LISTED BELOW)

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- Machine gun posts covering the principal streets of Constanta have been installed on the roofs of all high buildings in the city.
- On 21 August nine Rumanian officers (field grade) and twelve sailors reportedly escaped from Constanta in a launch formerly belonging to the Royal family. The fugitives are said to have shot down a pursuing plane with the launch's guns and are reported to have reached Turkey safely.
- The motorship TRAVSYLVANIA is reported to have transported approximately 2,000 Greeks from Albania to Constanta in recent months.
- During summer 1949, several Soviet officers stationed in Constanta and Braila committed suicide upon learning that they were to be transferred to the USSR.
- The reservoir of the City of Braila has been under guard by Soviet troops, who replaced the Rumanian soldiers previously assigned to this duty.
- Four war vessels of 8,000 tons each are under construction at the IRN shipyards in Braila. Plans for these ships had been prepared by German engineers during the war. The vessels are said to be nearly completed but no radar equipment is available for installation. It is reported that efforts are being made to purchase radar equipment from Great Britain. These yards presently employ 4,000 workers and new machinery is being installed. Small merchant vessels are also under construction at these yards.
- On 1 August the piece-work rate of dock workers in Rumania was revised and a daily wage substituted. Dock workers now receive 4,500 - 5,000 lei monthly; under the former system their pay amounted to 20,000 lei per month.
- Acts of sabotage were reportedly carried out in Braila on 12-14 August. A large flour mill, with a daily capacity of 28 carloads, was destroyed by fire. Approximately 65-70 carloads of flour and 90-95 carloads of grain were lost in the blaze. The local authorities have made numerous arrests.

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Auth.: HR 702

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